IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as indicated below.

Paragraphs [0046] and [0047], on page 13, have been amended as follows:

[0046]   The print data processing apparatus shown in Fig. 3 according to a preferred embodiment of the present invention is obtained by extending the functions of the print data processing apparatus shown in Fig. 2. In this apparatus, when an image-forming command (GDI function) is sent from a graphics engine 202 to a printer driver 303 203, a spool file 303 composed of intermediate codes is temporarily generated.

[0047]   In the print data processing apparatus shown in Fig. 2, the application 201 is released from the print processing at the time the printer driver 203 has finished converting all print commands sent from the graphics engine 202 into printer control commands. In the print data processing apparatus shown in Fig. 3, the application 201 is released from the print processing at the time the spooler 202 302 has converted all print commands into intermediate code data and has output the intermediate code data to the spool file 303. Normally, from the point of view of release of application, the latter requires a shorter time. However, viewed from a time up to completion of outputting the printing result from the printer 100, the latter tends to require a more time in proportion to the time for generating the spool file 303. The relationship between the former and the latter is shown in Fig. 4. Fig. 4 shows a schematic time-series relationship between the operation of the driver 203 in Fig. 2 and the operation of the driver 203 in Fig. 3.

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Paragraph [0052], spanning pages 16 and 17, has been amended as follows:

[0052]   When being instructed by the spool file manager 304, the

despooler 305 processes the intermediate code included in the spool file 303 in accordance

with information on the result of analysis of the optimal operation mode and the content of

the processing-setting information which are included in the spool file 303, and uses a

renderer 306 in the despooler 305 to develop the intermediate code into a print image at

high speed, as required. The determination of whether the intermediate code is developed

into the print image is performed such that an optimization determination processor in the

despooler 305 reads a file containing the result of the analysis performed by the spooler

302, and comprehensively considers the file, together with information such as the

processing-setting information. The determination may be performed in units of pages and

may be performed in units of image-forming objects. In any case, the despooler 305 reads

the intermediate code from the spool file 303, converts the intermediate code into a form

adapted for the Application Programming Interface (API), and outputs the converted form

again via the graphics engine 202. When the print command received by the dispatcher

301 from the graphics engine 202 is a print command issued from the dispatcher 305 301

to the graphics engine 202, the dispatcher 301 outputs the print command not to the spooler

302 but to the printer driver 203. When being instructed by the dispatcher 301, the printer

driver 203 generates and outputs a printer control command to the printer 100 via the

system spooler 204.

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Paragraph [0073] on page 29 has been amended as follows:

[0073]   The above sequential process is described below with reference to
the flowchart shown in Fig. 11, which starts in step S111 at which print-data processing is
started.

Paragraph [0079], bridging pages 32 and 33, has been amended as follows:

[0079]   In the above flowchart, the image-forming process is performed as
a separate process by graphics engine API calls. Specifically, the print processing is
executed such that the graphics engine 202 dynamically links the printer driver 203. The
process of the printer driver 203 is described below with reference to Fig. 15, which starts
at step S151.

Paragraph [0081], bridging pages 34 and 35, has been amended as follows:

[0081]   When all the steps of the print-data generating process in step S112
(in Fig. 11) are completed, in step S113, the user is queried about whether determination
related to the present printing is appropriate, and the result of user's evaluation is accepted.
Referring Fig. 12, Step S113 is further described in the following. In step S122, a message
and options are displayed in a form as shown in Fig. 10, and a selected option as an input is
accepted. After that, the selected option is recognized. When, for example, the

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"(PRINTING RESULT) IS SATISFACTORY THIS TIME" shown in Fig. 10 is accepted

as an input, it is determined in step S123 that no change is detected before proceeding to

step S126. When one of the options other than the "(PRINTING RESULT) IS

SATISFACTORY THIS TIME" is selected and accepted, a determination criterion for the

next time is determined (step S124) based on the selected option and the present

determination criterion, and a determination criterion corresponding to the present

document construction is updated (step S125). After that, the printing-result query process

ends in step S126.

        Paragraph [0089] on page 38 has been amended as follows:

        [0089]   After the printer driver 203 initiates a print-data processing in step

S171, it performs a print-data generating process in step S172. The print-data generating

process in step S172 is identical to that in step S112 shown in Fig. 11. In step S173, the

printer driver 203 determines whether a printing-result query process is set to be activated.

If the determination is affirmative, the printer driver 203 performs the printing-result query

process, and terminates the print-data processing. The printing-result query process is

identical to that in step S113. If the printer driver 203 has determined in step S173 that the

printing-result query process is not set to be activated, the printing-result query process is

not performed and at step S175 the print-data processing ends.

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